

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 10.

Amend claims 1-6 and 9, as follows.

1. (Amended four times) A method for enhancing the production of an Adenovirus vector, comprising the steps of:

a) contacting an Adenovirus vector-producing cell with a first nucleic acid encoding p21 under conditions permitting said nucleic acid-contacted Adenovirus vector producing cell to express said first nucleic acid either transiently or stably,

b) contacting said Adenovirus vector-producing cell of step (a) with a second nucleic acid comprising an Adenovirus vector to be replicated ,

c) maintaining said first and second nucleic acid-contacted Adenovirus vector-producing cell in culture medium under conditions permitting both p21 synthesis from expression of said first nucleic acid, and Adenoviral vector production and gene expression from said second nucleic acid; and

d) harvesting from said culture medium, newly amplified Adenovirus vector produced by the nucleic acid-contacted Adenovirus vector producing cell, and optionally further separating the newly amplified Adenovirus vector from non-Adenovirus vector components in the culture medium.

2. (Amended four times) The method of claim 1 comprising utilizing a constitutive promoter operatively coupled to the nucleotide sequence encoding p21 for the generation of stably transfected cell lines.

3. (Amended four times) The method of claim 1 comprising utilizing a regulatable promoter operatively coupled to the nucleotide sequence encoding p21 for the generation of stably transfected cell lines.

4. (Amended four times) The method of claim 1 comprising utilizing a constitutive promoter operatively coupled to the nucleotide sequence encoding p21 for the generation of transiently transfected cell lines.

5. (Amended four times) The method of claim 1 comprising utilizing a regulatable promoter operatively coupled to the nucleotide sequence encoding p21 for the generation of transiently transfected cell lines.

6. (Amended four times) The method of claim 1 wherein the transfer of the nucleotide sequence encoding p21 is carried out using known transfer techniques employing naked DNA or viral or nonviral vectors.

9. (Amended) A method for preventing apoptosis during Adenovirus vector amplification in an Adenovirus vector producing cell, comprising:

a) introducing a nucleotide sequence encoding p21 into an Adenoviral vector producing cell simultaneously with, or followed by,

b) introducing the Adenoviral vector to be amplified into said Adenoviral vector producing, and

c) generating a transfected cell which resists apoptosis during adenoviral vector amplification, and wherein said p21 nucleotide sequence is operatively coupled to a constitutive or regulatable promoter.